



## 2011 "VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH INVASIVES" GRANTS REPORT FORM

### Display Report

#### PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

|   |   |                                    |
|---|---|------------------------------------|
| <b>Project Title:</b>                             | Mid-Columbia River National Wildlife Refuge Complex Invasive Species Mapping and Management with Volunteers   |                                    |
| <b>Region:<br/>Use region number ONLY</b>         | 1   |                                    |
| <b>Station:</b>                                   | Toppenish NWR   |                                    |
| <b>Contact Person:<br/>Name and Phone Number</b>  | Shannon Ludwig - 509-865-2405   |                                    |
| <b>Project Description:<br/>(Up to 250 words)</b> | <p>The Mid-Columbia River National Wildlife Refuge Complex proposed to survey, map, and ultimately control invasive species on Toppenish National Wildlife Refuge and adjacent Yakima Nation managed lands. We focused on 19 different invasive plants identified as priority species and Early Detection/ Rapid Response species in Yakima and Klickitat counties. An important element in this project's success was the involvement of local volunteers. Volunteer outreach was conducted through USFWS volunteers, Yakima Valley Audubon Society, and Heritage University. In addition, the Toppenish Refuge Youth Conservation Corps assisted with this project. A biotech/volunteer coordinator was hired for eight weeks to lead this project. The survey method was provided to us by Yakama Nation Wildlife Resource Management Program. The surveys were conducted on foot. When an invasive plant patch was found, a waypoint was entered into a GPA unit marking its location. These waypoints were later placed on an aerial map, which provided an overview look at the condition of the properties. In addition to the GPS waypoint, a photo was taken of the area and a survey form was completed for each patch found. The form required the surveyor to identify the weed species, specify the date of the visit, estimate the population area, cover of infestation, and population distribution, identify the plant community, state accessibility, provide a written description, and draw a hand map of the site. All of this information was organized in a data base and in binders to provide easy access to the information during treatment.</p> |                                    |
| <b>List of Invasives Species Targeted:</b>        | <b>Common Name</b>  | <b>Scientific Name</b>             |
|   | Bull thistle  | <i>Cirsium vulgare</i>             |
|   | Canada thistle  | <i>Cirsium arvense</i>             |
|   | Scotch thistle  | <i>Onopordum acanthium</i>         |
|   | Russian olive   | <i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>      |
|   | Russian knapweed  | <i>Acroptilon repens</i>           |
|   | Medusahead  | <i>Taeniatherum canput-medusae</i> |
|   | Yellow flag iris  | <i>Iris pseudacorus</i>            |

|   |                      |                            |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------|
|   | Purple loosestrife   | <i>Lythrum salicaria</i>   |
|   | Perrneial pepperweed | <i>Lepidium latifolium</i> |
| <b>Project Status:</b>  | Completed            |                            |
| <b>Project Completion Date or Estimated Completion Date:</b> (mm/dd/yyyy) | 09/30/2011           |                            |

## VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Volunteer Affiliation:</b><br>(Check all that apply)  | VA_Other   |
| <b>Volunteer Involvement:</b><br>Describe the type of work the volunteers performed. (Up to 150 words)       | Volunteers located target weed species and used GPS units to record locations. Volunteers completed data sheets for each weed location and also took digital photos. |
| <b>Total Number of Volunteers:</b>   | 8  |
| <b>Total Number of Volunteer Hours:</b>  | 395  |
| <b>Partnerships:</b><br>List both new and existing partnerships utilized in this project. (Up to 150 words). | Toppenish NWR partnered with the Yakama Nation to locate, map, and treat weed locations on both the refuge and adjacent Yakama Nation lands.                         |

## PROJECT RESULTS

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Project Results:</b><br>Give an overview of the results of the project. Include quantifiable measure of success, such as maps produced, efficacy of control measures, number of sites where invasions were detected early and responded to, number of community contacts, etc. (Up to 250 words). | Our surveys covered about 900 acres of Toppenish National Wildlife Refuge land and about 750 acres of Yakima Nation Wildlife Refuge land. The biotech/volunteer coordinator worked 320 hours on this project. Volunteers contributed an additional 75 hours and the Youth Conservation Corp worked 40 hours. Nine different weed species were found. These include bull thistle, Canada thistle, scotch thistle, Russian olive, Russian knapweed, medusahead rye, yellow flag iris, purple loosestrife, and perennial pepperweed. Overall, 640 individual weed locations were found. Some of the weeds found have already been treated and steps have been made to treat additional weed locations. Refuge staff will continue with weed treatment and post treatment monitoring for several years. |
| <b>Number of Acres Treated:</b>  | 80  |
| <b>Number of Acres Inventoried and/or Mapped:</b>  | 1650  |
| <b>Number of Acres Restored:</b>   | 0   |

## BUDGET INFORMATION

**Budget:** Account for funds in broad categories such as equipment, volunteer stipends, travel, coordinator salary/contract, etc.

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| <b>Total Grant Amount:</b> | \$ 12450 |
|----------------------------|----------|

## Breakdown of Expenditures:

| Category             | Total \$ Spent | % of Total Grant |
|----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Equipment / Supplies | 2032           | 16               |
| Chemical             | 6594           | 53               |

|                                       |       |     |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| Biocontrol Agents                     |       |     |
| Travel                                |       |     |
| Volunteer Stipends                    | 3824  | 31  |
| Volunteer Coordinator Salary/Contract |       |     |
| Restoration Materials                 |       |     |
| Other                                 |       |     |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                          | 12450 | 100 |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Recommendations:</b> (OPTIONAL)<br>How useful was this program for meeting refuge<br>invasive species objectives and how can it be improved? |  |
|---|--|

- [Return to Main Menu](#) -